

**Part 1: Readings for Writers**

Choose one book from **each** list to read over the summer (for a total of two books). You must read the entire book.

**Memoirs:**

*The Glass Castle* Jeannette Walls  
*Angela's Ashes* Frank McCourt  
*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* Maya Angelou  
*The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid* Bill Bryson  
*Istanbul: Memories and the City* Orhan Pamuk

**Graphic Memoirs:**

*Maus I* and *Maus II* Art Spiegelman (You must read both)  
*Persepolis I* Marjane Satrapi

Complete the Major Works Nonfiction Data Sheet (MWNDS) for your books. You should complete one for each book that you read. These must be handwritten in blue or black ink.

**Scoring:**

The sheets will be scored on level of detail, correctness, and originality. The MWNDS should reflect your work, not what student help websites think. In fact, it is in your best interests to avoid consulting any website for literary analysis. To read another's work and present it as your own is plagiarism. Your teachers are very familiar with these websites, and they are just as readily available to use as to you--so be original and show what you think about the text. Every box should be completed, fully--in your own words and your own handwriting.

**Part 2: Narrative Writing**

Select one of the writing options below and write your own narrative piece. This is your first introduction to your teacher, so impress us with your writing techniques and style. Also, be honest in your story telling. We are excited to get to know you. Finally, you may choose to respond to any of these writing prompts in prose like the memoir you have read or graphic narrative like the graphic memoir that you read.

- Trace the path you expect to follow to establish yourself in your chosen profession, considering possible obstacles you may face and how you expect to deal with them. Include a thesis statement that conveys the importance of your goals. If you like, you may refer to your memoir selection and the moments where you author needed to set goals for achievement or growth.
- Write a personal narrative looking back from some point in the far future on your own life as you hope others will see it. Use third person if you like, and write your own obituary; or, use first person, assessing your life in a letter to your great-grandchildren.
- Write an account of one of these "firsts": your first serious argument with your parents; your first experience with physical violence or danger; your first extended stay away from home; your first encounter with someone whose culture was very different from your own; or your first experience with the serious illness or death of a close friend or relative. Make sure your essay includes a thesis statement your narrative can support.

# Major Works Data Sheet--Nonfiction

Title: Author: Date of Publication: Genre:	<b>Biographical Information</b> about the author
<b>Historical Information</b> about the period of publication (Cite any outside sources)	Who is the author? Include the author's birth/death (if applicable) dates, educational background, occupation, awards, etc. What are the author's qualifications for writing on the subject? Is the author an authority in the subject area? How does the author present the subject and his/her expertise? (Cite any outside sources)
<b>Plot Summary</b> Identify the five major plot elements (introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution)	

**Quotations**--Your choices should be *significant* and *representative* of the book and your explanation

should provide analysis of this significance. Include literary devices and explanations. Provide page #s. For e-books, provide the location and abbreviation of the e-book platform (ex: Kindle 514)

**Memorable Quotations**

5-10 Important Quotations

Identify the speaker of the quotation and explain its **context** and **significance**

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**Major Figures in the Story**

Name

Role in the Story

Figure's significance to the plot or theme

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**Setting**

Describe the setting(s) and the mood the setting(s) create	Describe the significance of the OPENING scenes from the text.
	Describe the significance of the CLOSING scenes from the text.

**Style and Language--Non-fiction**

Discuss the author's style and use of language. Include the following: Is the language level appropriate? Is there clarity to the style of writing? Is the material fairly easy to follow and understand? Does the author avoid stereotypes and	Give an example that demonstrates this style, and explain how it does so--cite with
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generalizations? Does the author avoid didactic and condescending language? Discuss the author's syntax, as well as his/her use of tone, diction, and form (how does he/she develop the story).

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**Themes--Purpose**  
Explain the author's purpose in telling this story. Why is he/she telling it? Is there some greater motive? What is it? Additionally, what are you supposed to get out of this work? What are the overall themes developed in the work? (Use quotations to support your themes. Themes should be written as "messages" in sentence form.)

Themes

Explain how this theme ties to the book

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**Possible Questions for Discussion** (create at least 5): These questions should be critical thinking questions an open-ended to promote discussion. Simple questions and yes or no questions will receive point deductions. Model Question: Why did Erik Larson title his book *Devil in the White City*, and what theme does this title suggest?

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